

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE****LOAD BALANCING TO SUPPORT TAPE AND DISK SUBSYSTEMS ON  
SHARED FIBRE CHANNEL ADAPTERS**

A mechanism is provided for monitoring I/O activity of each device and the total I/O activity for each adapter. When there is low I/O activity for the tape subsystem, the I/O for the disk subsystems may be spread across all available adapters and paths. When I/O activity for the tape subsystem increases, the I/O activity for the disk subsystems may be reduced on the adapter processing the tape I/O, but will continue across all other adapters. If the tape subsystem begins to report errors due to I/O starvation, the disk I/O activity may be adjusted until the errors stop.